

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

B-
Survey No. 4649

1. Name

Historic 1601-1627 North Dallas Street
and / common

2. Location

street & number 1601-1627 North Dallas Street
city, town Baltimore
state & zip code Maryland 21205 county

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name
street & number telephone
city, town state & zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Land Records liber
street & number Clarence Mitchell Courthouse folio
city, town Baltimore State Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title
date federal state county local
depository for survey records
city, town state & zip code

7. Description

Condition		Check One	Check One
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved:
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date of move: _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This row of twelve two-story, two-bay wide houses late Italianate-style brick houses with shed roofs and stepped brick cornices were built in 1894 by Cornelius Edwards, a well-known East Baltimore builder of working class houses. Most of the houses retain their original brick facades, which have all been painted.

The houses are two stories in height, 12' wide, and occupy lots 65' deep. The southernmost house in the row, at 14'3" wide, was built to serve as a combination storefront/residence. Each house is three small rooms deep and there is no back building. The houses are constructed in running bond and were originally painted and striped. Each house has a single hooded chimney located near the front and rear of the house. The shed roof is capped by a sheet metal cornice set above three rows of progressively recessed stretcher bricks that top a frieze band composed of four rows of stretcher bricks that project slightly from the façade.

The door and window openings have segmentally arched brick lintels, composed of double rows of headers, with plain tympanums. The sills are wood. Some original 2/2 sash remain. The doorways have single-light transoms and show a variety of replacement door types. The houses sit on fairly low basements lit by a single sash, set beneath a segmental arch composed of a single row of headers. Each front door (no original doors remain) is reached by three concrete steps. The basement façade was originally painted white to imitate the marble basements found on the more expensive houses facing the main streets.

This entire row was demolished in the summer of 1997.

3. Significance

Period	Area of significance	check one & justify			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	humanitarian	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theatre	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other: specify	

Specific dates 1894

Builder/Architect Cornelius Edwards

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This group of houses is significant as representing a very plain type of small street house that was constructed to serve mainly as rental housing for the working class residents of the area, many of whom were German. The houses were built by Cornelius Edwards, a local builder, according to a pattern that was quite common to the city's working class neighborhoods of the period c. 1880 to 1910. Recognizing that workers held different levels of jobs (and pay), builders created a hierarchy of house sizes (and prices) in the new neighborhoods going up to serve the expanding factory districts ringing the harbor and north-east of the central city. Builders acquired anywhere from an eighth to a quarter of a city block and built 14' to 15'-wide houses on the main streets, and smaller, 11' to 13'-wide two-story houses on the narrower streets bisecting the blocks.

In this particular case builder John Hoffacker built three story, three-bay wide (14'6") late Italianate-style houses on the west side of Bond St. which sold to a German-American cigarmaker, a cutter, a machinist, and a bricklayer; and two-story, three-bay wide (13') versions on the north side of Federal St. (price, \$1,000) which he sold to two German-American bookprinters, a clerk, and a mariner in 1890-91. In 1892 another local builder, James W. Sindall built even grander three-story, three-bay wide (15'7") late Italianate-style houses on the east side of Caroline St., which sold for \$2,500 (with \$62 ground rents). One sold to a carriage manufacturer, one to a paperhanger whose shop was on South Broadway, and one to a "china painter, gilder, and decorator." Finally, in 1894 Eben Hunting, the owner of most of the block leased the 6 lots on the southern half of the west side of Dallas St. and 12 lots on the east side to Cornelius Edwards. Edwards sold all of the Dallas St. houses—for \$450 to \$500—to investors interested in obtaining rental income. In this way if local workers couldn't afford the purchase price of the small street houses, then they *could* afford the \$8 or so a month it would cost to rent one, while they saved to be able to buy their own home later.¹

¹BCLR, JB 1281/1; JB 1337/462; JB 1339/60; JB 1398/236; JB 1514/497; JB 1517/424. Baltimore City Directory of 1892.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Mary Ellen Hayward and Charles Belfoure, *The Baltimore Rowhouse*
(New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 1999)

10. Geographic Data

Acreage of nominated property

Quadrangle name

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared by

name / title Dr. Mary Ellen Hayward

Organization The Alley House Project

date June 2000

street & number 1306 Carrollton Ave.

telephone

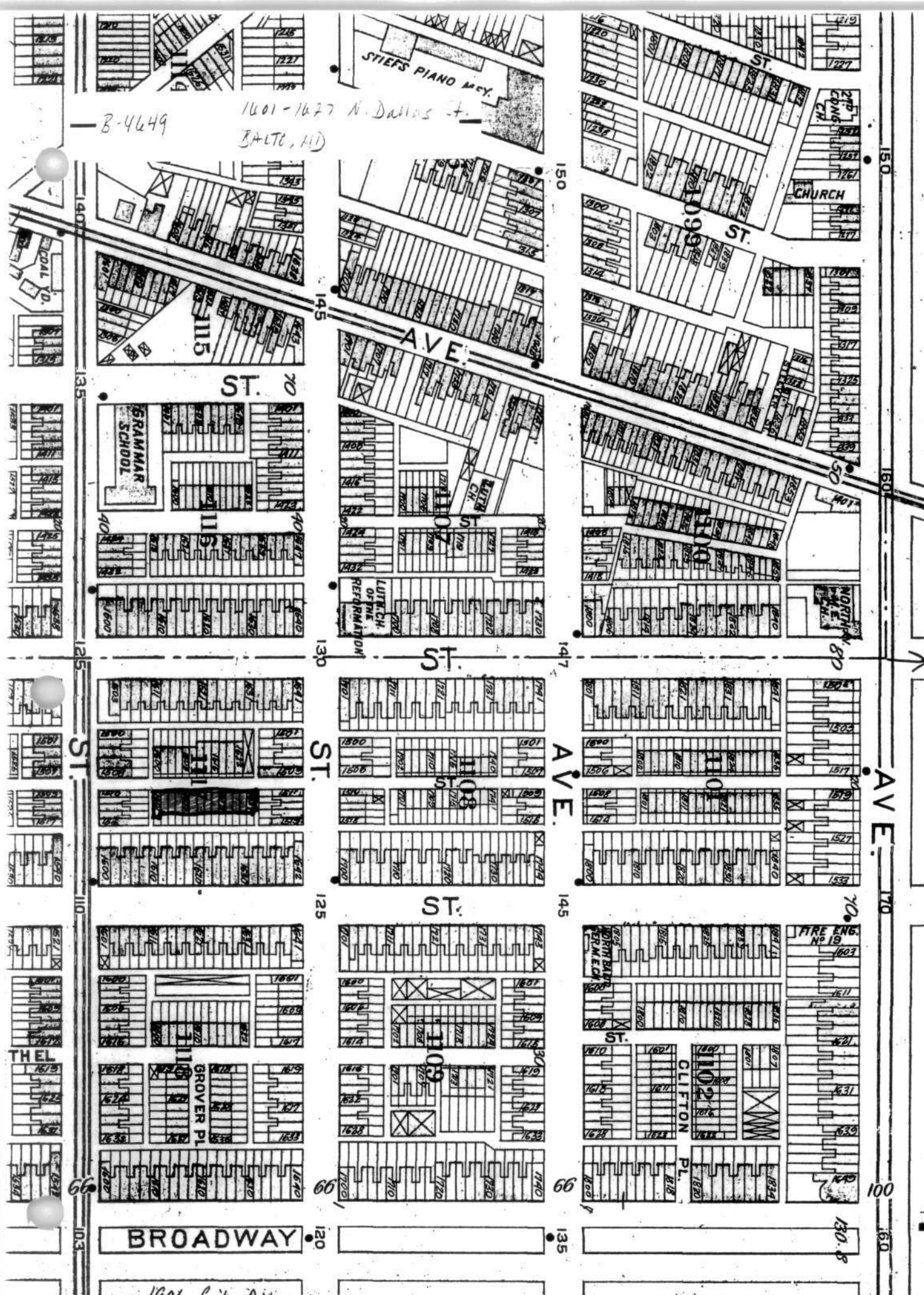
city, town Baltimore

state & zip code Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

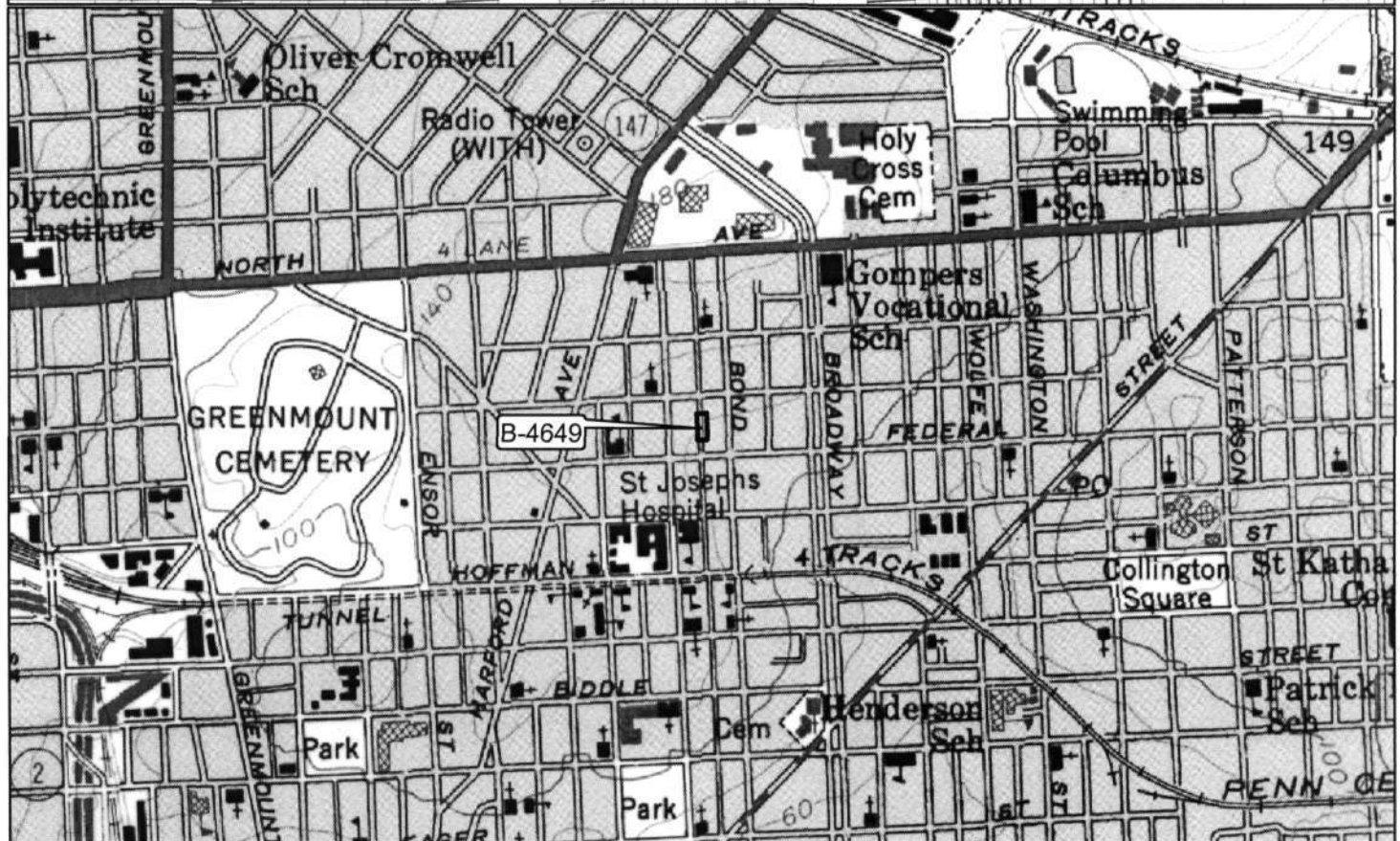
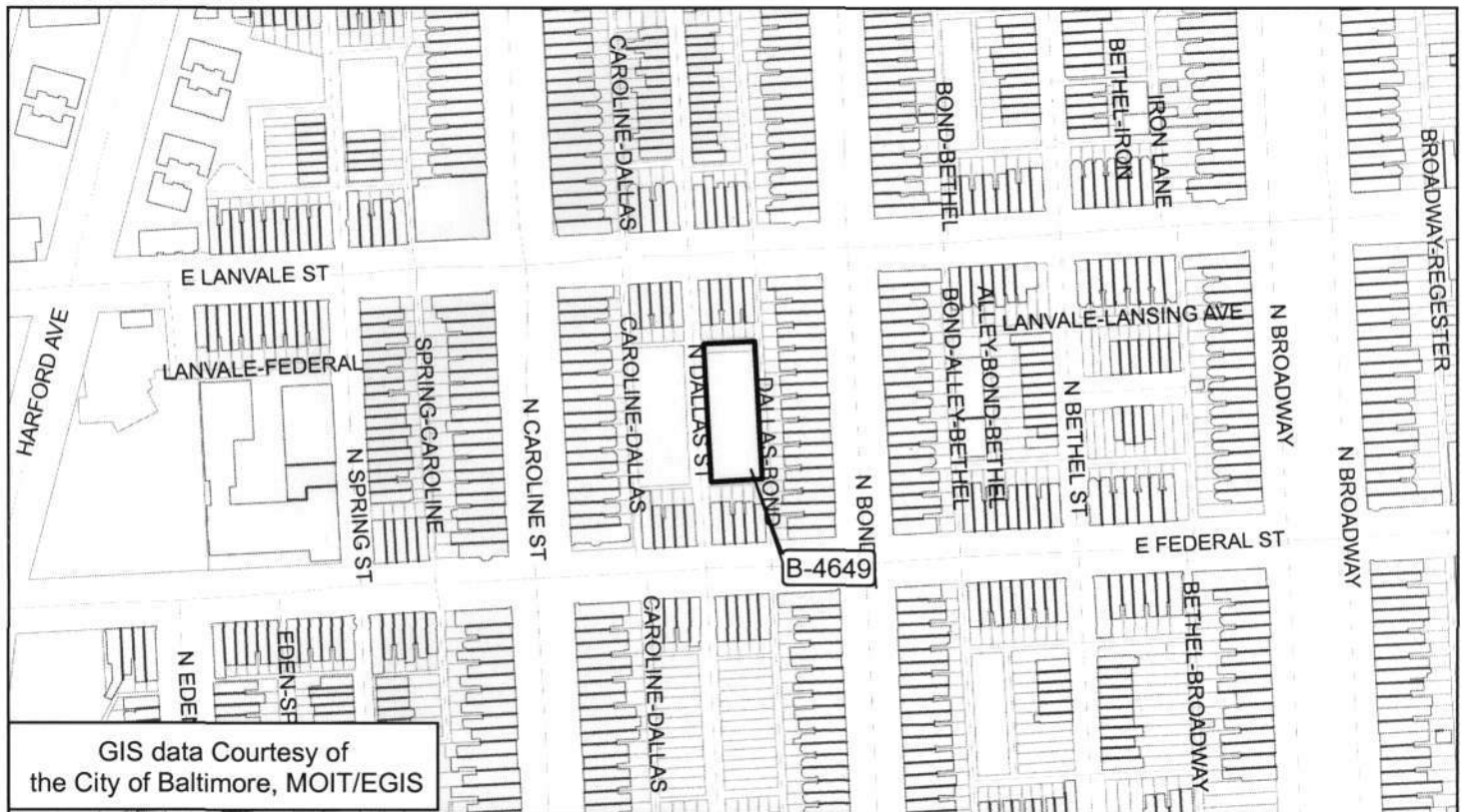
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of property rights.

Return to:
DHCP/DHCD
Maryland Historical Trust
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032-2023



Demolished

B-4649
1601-1627 N. Dallas Street
Block 1117
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





B-4249

01-1627 N. Dallas St.

SAID. MD

W. Nield

10/96

MD SAID

1/2



B-4649

1601-1627 N. Dallas St.

BALTO. MD

W. Nield

10/96

2/2